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Message Text

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53
ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 IO-03 H-01 SSO-00 /015 W
---------- 079709
O 061441Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9493
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4447

STADIS/LIMDIS//////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, TU
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY ON TURKISH POPPY CONTROL

REF: STATE 129350

TO ASSIST IN RESPONDING TO THE INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN RANGEL (REFTEL), WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THE TURKISH POPPY CONTROL PROGRAM:

1. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED US (ANKARA 2643) OF ITS PLANS TO DEPLOY THROUGHOUT THE POPPY GROWING PROVINCES 75 INSPECTION TEAMS, EACH CONSISTING OF IFVE MEN, AT LEAST ONE OF WHOM MUST BE FROM THE JANDARMA OR TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE (TNP). THE OTHER MEMBERS ARE SPECIALISTS FROM THE SOIL PRODUCTS OFFICE (TMO) AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. THESE TEAMS WOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY THE COMMITMENT OF HUNDREDS OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL FROM THE REGULAR JANDARMA AND TNP FORCES IN THOSE PROVINCES DURING THE CRITICAL PERIOD WHEN INCISION IS POSSIBLE. DURING RECENT FIELD TRIPS INTO THE AREA, EMBASSY OFFICER (FYI-AIDREP) HAS OBSERVED THAT THE INSPECTION TEAMS ARE IN OPERATION, ACTIVELY CHECKING FIELDS AGAINST LICENSES AND DESTROYING ACCIDENTIAL AS WELL AS INTENTIONAL OVERPLANTINGS.

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2. BEGN UNCLASSIFIED: THE TURKISH PRESS HAS GIVEN

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FAIRLY PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE FACT THAT THE GOT HAS UNDER-
TAKEN A SERIOUS POPPY SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH PRESS
REPORTS ARE NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY ACCURATE IN ALL DETAILS.
MODERATELY-LEFTIST CUMHURIYET, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTED MAY 21
THAT THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SECURITY HAS ASSIGNED 306
"DETECTIVES" TO THE SEVEN POPPY GROWING PROVINCES IN ORDER TO
ENFORCE THE CONTROL PROGRAM (ANKARA 4001). MASS CIRCULATION
DAILY HURRIYET CARRIED STORY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS JUNE 3 IN A REGIONAL
EDITION REGARDING THE DESTRUCTION OF NINE HECTARES OF ILLICIT
FIELDS IN AFYON PROVINCE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL CONDUCTED TWO
TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR 66 TURKISH POLICE OFFICERS IN FEBRUARY AND
MARCH 1975, COVERING ENFORCEMENT AND INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS.
IN AUGUST 1974 THE US DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)
CONDUCTED TWO TWO-WEEK TRAINING SCHOOLS IN ANKARA. THE FIRST
WAS ATTENDED BY 36 JANDARMA NCO'S AND THE SECOND BY 45 TNP
OFFICERS. ALSO, DEA CONDUCTED TWO TRAINING COURSES IN FEBRUARY
1975. THE FIRST WAS ATTENDED BY 35 JANDARMA NCO'S AND THE
SECOND BY 35 JANDARMA OFFICERS OF THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT AND
ABOVE. THE MAJORITY OF PERSONNEL TRAINED IN FEBRUARY WERE TO BE
INVOLVED IN POPPY CONTROL IN GROWING PROVINCES.

4. TURKISH ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED THROUGHOUT
THE SEVEN GROWING PROCINCES. THE TMO REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
IS LOCATED IN AFYON AND EVERY TMO PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS
HAS A CONTROLLER (USUALLY ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT FROM AFYON,
ANKARA OR ISTANBUL) DESIGNATED TO COORDINATE THE POPPY CONTROL
PROGRAM. THE MONITORING PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE
THROUGH THE END OF THE BUYING PERIOD, I.E., THROUGH SEPTEMBER.

5. ELEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN MISSION IN TURKEY ARE MAKING
A JOINT EFFORT TO OBSERVE AND EVALUATE THE SUCCESS OF THE GOT'S
CONTROL PROGRAM. FYI - ONE USAID AGRICULTURAL SPECIALIST
HAS MADE -- AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE -- FREQUENT TRIPS INT
THE AREA. ALSO, OFFICERS OF THE SIX-MAN DEA ANKARA REGIONAL
OFFICE HAVE TRAVELLED INTO THE AREA TO OBSERVE THE CONTROL
PROGRAM AND CONSULT WITH TURKISH ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.
MOREOVER, SUPPLEMENTARY OBSERVATION TRIPS ARE BEING MADE BY
OFFICERS FROM THE EMBASSY AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN IZMIR
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(WHOSE CONSULAR DISTRICT ENCOMPASSES MOST OF THE POPPY GROWING
PROVINCES). THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS WORKING GROUP IS MEETING
FREQUENTLY DURING THE HARVEST PERIOD IN ORDER TO RECIZW AND
EVALUATE THE PROGRESS OF THE POPPY CONTROL PROGRAM.
END FYI

6. AS REPORTED IN GENEVA 4208, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT
AMB THE UN ARE STILL DISCUSSING BASIS ON WHICH INFORMAL UN

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OBSERVERS MIGHT COME TO TURKEY DURING THE HARVEST.

7. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: AS REPORTED IN ANKARA
5372 OF JULY 8, 1974, THE PRIMARY LEGAL BASIS FOR THE POPPY
CONTROL SYSTEM IS THE 1971 OPIUM LICENSING AND CONTROL LAW,
WHICH PROVIDES FOR SIX MONTHS TO THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT
WITH FINES FOR PERSONS ILLEGALLY GROWING OPIUM POPPIES IN
AUTORIZED REGIONS, AND TWO TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT WITH
FINE FOR ILLEGAL GROWTH OUTSIDE THE AUTHORIZED REGION.
FARMERS ARE FINED FOR NOT DELIVERING ESTIMATED OR TOTAL AMOUNT OF
CROP TO TMO. FURTHERMORE, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S 1975 DECREE
PROHIBITING INCISION PROVIDES FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF POPPY
CROPS AND REVOCATION OF LICENSES OF THOSE VILATING THE DECREE.

7. TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED IT INTENDS TO
EXPORT THE 1975 POPPY STRAW CROP FOR PROCESSING (PROBABLY IN
EUROPEAN PLANTS) UNTIL ITS OWN ALKALOID PLANT, PLANMED FOR
CONSTRUCTION IN AFYON, IS IN OPERATION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT A
NUMBER OF POTENTIAL BUYERS HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE TMO,
BUT TO DATE NO RPT NO CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED.

8. UNOFFICIAL ESTIMATES FROM SEVERAL SOURCES PLACE THE
EXPECTED YIELD OF THE 1975 TURKISH POPPY STRAW CROP AT 12,000
METRIC TONS. HOWEVER, THIS FIGURE IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AFTER
ALL CHECKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. END UNCLASSIFIED

9. COMMENT: EXCEPT AS INDICATED THE ABOVE INFORMATION
WAS PROVIDED TO US ON A STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS AND IS
SUBMITTED FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO DRAW UPON INSOFAR AS IT CONSIDERS
APPROPRIATE IN RESPONDING TO CONGRESSMAN RANGEL.
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